

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/817,400

Examiner

Shih-Chao Chen

Applicant(s)

OBERT ET AL.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed on April 2, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4/2/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Shih-Chao Chen
SHIH-CHAO CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 1-15 is the inclusion of the limitations of a first phase-comparison device having as an input the first-sensor output signal and the second-sensor output signal, and as an output a first phase comparison of the first-sensor output signal and the second-sensor output signal; and a first geometrical calculator having as an input the first phase comparison and as an output a geometrical relationship of the first-pair axis to an other feature. It is these limitations found in each of the claims, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 16-17 is the inclusion of the limitations of a first phase-comparison device having as an input the first-sensor output signal and the second-sensor output signal, and as an output a first phase comparison of the first-sensor output signal and the second-sensor output signal; and a first geometrical calculator having as an input the first phase comparison and as an output an angular relationship of the first-pair axis to the transmitted microwave feed beam. It is these limitations found in each of the claims, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 18-20 is the inclusion of the limitations of a phase-comparison device having as an input the sensor output signals and as an output a phase comparison of the output signals; and a geometrical calculator having as an input the phase comparison and as an output a geometrical relationship of the microwave sensors. It is these limitations found in each of the claims, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

Nilsson (U.S. Patent No. 6,611,236) teaches an antenna arrangement includes an antenna reflector, a transceiver element and a signal detection unit having a signal converter and a computing unit for generating in response to incoming signals control signals for controlling the alignment of the antenna reflector with a target object. However, Nilsson does not disclose or suggest a first phase-comparison device having as an input the first-sensor output signal and the second-sensor output signal, and as an output a first phase comparison of the first-sensor output signal and the second-sensor output signal; and a first geometrical calculator having as an input the first phase comparison and as an output a geometrical relationship of the first-pair axis to an other feature.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shih-Chao Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1819. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7 AM to 4:30 PM, First Fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shih-Chao Chen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2821

Shih-Chao Chen
SHIH-CHAO CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

SXC
August 29, 2005